

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A blade assembly for a laryngoscope including a handle, said blade assembly comprising:

base for coupling to the handle;

an elongated blade secured to the base, said elongated blade having a proximal end, a distal end, an upper surface, and a lower surface, said lower surface of said elongated blade being secured to said base at said proximal end;

a first guide tube secured to said upper surface of said elongated blade and having a proximal end and a distal end; and

a second guide tube secured to said upper surface of said elongated blade adjacent said first guide tube and having a proximal end and a distal end,

said first and second guide tubes being constructed and arranged to direct tubes extended therethrough into the oral cavity of a patient.

2. (Original) The blade assembly of claim 1, wherein said first guide tube is substantially straight and said second guide tube is curved.

3. (Original) The blade assembly of claim 2, wherein said elongated blade is curved.

4. (Original) The blade assembly of claim 1, further comprising a light attached to said elongated blade.

5. (Original) The blade assembly of claim 1, further comprising a tongue deflector having a portion extending in a direction transverse to the upper surface of the elongated blade along a marginal edge segment of said elongated blade.

6. (Original) The blade assembly of claim 1, wherein said first and second guide tubes are oriented at different angles of attack with respect to said elongated blade so that when said elongated blade is placed atop the tongue of a patient to effect laryngeal suspension, said first and second guide tubes direct respective tubes extended therethrough into different regions of the patient's oral cavity.

7-20. Cancelled.

21. (Previously Presented) The blade assembly of claim 1, wherein the proximal end of the first guide tube and the proximal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at the proximal end of the elongated blade.

22. (Previously Presented) The blade assembly of claim 21, wherein the distal end of the first guide tube and the distal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at about the midpoint of the elongated blade.

23. (Previously Presented) The blade assembly of claim 1, wherein the center of the distal end of the first guide tube is disposed above the center of the distal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the elongated blade.

24. (Previously Presented) The blade assembly of claim 23, wherein the center of the proximal end of the first guide tube is disposed below the center of the proximal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the elongated blade.

25. (Previously Presented) The blade assembly of claim 1, further comprising a first aspiration tube inserted into the first guide tube and a second aspiration tube inserted into the second guide tube.

26. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising:

a base;

an elongated blade secured to the base, said elongated blade having a proximal end, a distal end, an upper surface, and a lower surface, said lower surface of said elongated blade being secured to said base at said proximal end;

a first guide means for guiding a first aspiration tube to a patient's laryngeal gutter, said first guide means being secured to said upper surface of said elongated blade; and

a second guide means for guiding a second aspiration tube to a patient's glottic aperture, said second guide means being secured to said upper surface of said elongated blade.

27. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said first guide means comprises a first guide tube having a proximal end and a distal end and said second guide means comprises a second guide tube having a proximal end and a distal end.

28. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 27, wherein said first guide tube is substantially straight and said second guide tube is curved.

29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 28, wherein said elongated blade is curved and said second guide tube follows the curve of the elongated blade.

30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 27, wherein the proximal end of the first guide tube and the proximal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at the proximal end of the elongated blade.

31. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 30, wherein the distal end of the first guide tube and the distal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at about the midpoint of the elongated blade.

32. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 27, wherein the center of the distal end of the first guide tube is disposed above the center of the distal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the elongated blade, and wherein the center of the proximal end of the first guide tube is disposed below the center of the proximal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the elongated blade.

33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 27, further comprising a first aspiration tube inserted into the first guide tube and a second aspiration tube inserted into the second guide tube.

34. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 27, wherein said first and second guide tubes are oriented at different angles of attack with respect to said elongated blade.

35. (New) A blade assembly, comprising:
base for coupling to a handle of a laryngoscope;
a blade secured to the base, said blade having a proximal end, a distal end, an upper surface, and a lower surface, said lower surface of said blade being secured to said base at said proximal end;
a first guide tube secured to said upper surface of said blade and having a proximal end and a distal end; and
a second guide tube secured to said upper surface of said blade and having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein
said first guide tube being constructed and arranged to direct a first tube extended therethrough into an oral cavity of a patient,
said second guide tube being constructed and arranged to direct a second tube extended therethrough into the oral cavity of a patient, and
said first guide tube is not disposed within the second guide tube and the second guide tube is not disposed within the first guide tube.

36. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, wherein said first guide tube is substantially straight and said second guide tube is curved.

37. (New) The blade assembly of claim 36, wherein said blade is elongate and curved.

38. (New) The blade assembly of claim 37, further comprising a light attached to said elongated blade.

39. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, further comprising a tongue deflector having a portion extending in a direction transverse to the upper surface of the blade along a marginal edge segment of said blade.

40. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, wherein said first and second guide tubes are oriented at different angles of attack with respect to said blade so that when said blade is placed atop the tongue of a patient to effect laryngeal suspension, said first and second guide tubes direct respective tubes extended therethrough into different regions of the patient's oral cavity.

41. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, wherein the proximal end of the first guide tube and the proximal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at the proximal end of the blade.

42. (New) The blade assembly of claim 41, wherein the distal end of the first guide tube and the distal end of the second guide tube are both positioned at about the midpoint of the blade.

43. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, wherein the center of the distal end of the first guide tube is disposed above the center of the distal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the blade.

44. (New) The blade assembly of claim 43, wherein the center of the proximal end of the first guide tube is disposed below the center of the proximal end of the second guide tube relative to the upper surface of the blade.

45. (New) The blade assembly of claim 35, further comprising a first aspiration tube inserted into the first guide tube and a second aspiration tube inserted into the second guide tube.